

R E P O R T  
OF THE  
DUNDEE CONFERENCE,

(FROM 8th JUNE, TO 30th NOV, 1851.)

HELD IN  
WATT INSTITUTION HALL,

---

JAMES M'NAUGHTAN, PRESIDENT.

JAMES MAIR, SECRETARY

1880

# REPORT

## OF THE

### DUNDEE CONFERENCE.

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Sunday, Nov 30.—Conference assembled at 11 o'clock a.m., in Watt Institution Hall, Constitution Road, according to previous notice. Elder Mather called the Meeting to order, and moved that Elder James McNaughtan preside; carried unanimously. The President then moved that James Mair, Clerk of Conference, minute this day's proceedings; carried unanimously.

The President then gave out the hymn on the first page, which, being sung, Elder Mather engaged in prayer. The congregation then sung the hymn on the 35th page, when President McNaughtan arose and said, "It is with feelings of inexpressible pleasure that I meet with you all in the capacity of a Conference to transact business—to counsel together on measures best adapted for the furthering and promoting the principles of God, in this northern region. We wish it to be distinctly understood by all, that whatever change or alteration may take place in our proceedings to-day, that we consult not personal feelings, but that we aim at the general interest, and the uniform happiness of the Conference, and seek those measures that will result in the greatest amount of good. I feel happy in being favoured with the company of Elder Brewerton, of England, who, as you will learn from the "Star," was recently appointed to the Presidency of the Edinburgh Conference; and also our much respected Father Waugh, of Edinburgh. We anticipate a good day, so that we shall be as expeditious as possible in transacting our business, that our time may be as profitably employed as possible."

Officers present,—17 Elders, 7 Priests, 11 Teachers, and 4 Deacons.

The Conference Clerk was then called upon, and read out the total of the various Branch Representations, as per Table annexed.

The following resolutions were laid before the Conference, and adopted without dissent:—

Moved by the President, seconded by Elder Mather—that we uphold, by our faith and prayers, Brigham Young, Elder C. Kimbell, and Willard Richards, as the first Presidency of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, in all the World.

Moved by President McNaughtan, seconded by Elder Beath, that we sustain the Twelve Apostles, or travelling high council, in all the world, with Orson Hyde as their President.

Moved by Elder McNaughtan, seconded by Brother Copley, that we

sustain, by our faith and prayers, Franklin D. Richards, in his Presidency over the churches in the British Isles, with G. B. Wallace and Levi Richards as his counsellors.

Moved by Elder M'Naughtan, seconded by Elder Shepherd, that we sustain John Taylor, and those engaged with him, in introducing and establishing the Gospel in France and Germany.

Moved by J. M'Naughtan, seconded by A. F. McDonald, that we sustain Lorenzo Snow, and those engaged with him, in introducing and establishing the Gospel in Italy, Switzerland, and India.

Moved by J. M'Naughtan, seconded by Elder Greig, that we sustain Erastus Snow, and those engaged in the Priesthood with him, in introducing and establishing the Gospel in Denmark, Sweden, and Norway.

Moved by J. M'Naughtan, seconded by A. F. McDonald, that we sustain Addison Pratt, and those engaged with him, in carrying on the good work in the Society Islands.

It was then resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and McDonald, that the Saints in Portsey be organized into a Branch, and be annexed to the Dundee Conference.

Resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and McDonald, that Hugh Gowans (now Priest) be ordained to the office of Elder, and be appointed to preside in Portsey Branch, and labour in that vicinity.

Resolved, on motion of the aforesaid, that Alexander M'Lennan, in Portsey, receive the office of Priest.

Resolved, on motion of the aforesaid, that Alexander M'Ree, of Portsey, receive the office of Teacher.

Resolved, on motion of the aforesaid, that Alexander Seivewright of Portsey, receive the office of Deacon.

Resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and Booth, that James Mather (now Priest) be ordained to the office of Elder in Arbroath Branch.

Resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and Booth, that A. Sutherland, be ordained to the office of Deacon in Arbroath Branch.

Resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and Mather, that Priest James Mair in Dundee, receive the office of Elder.

Resolved, on motion of the aforesaid, that Priest Robert Murdoch in Dundee, receive the office of Elder.

Resolved, on motion of J. M'Naughtan and J. Christie, that Hugh M'Kay in Dundee, receive the office of Deacon.

Resolved, on motion of J. M'Naughtan and Brother Barnet, that James Strachan in Dundee, receive the office of Deacon.

Resolved, on motion of J. M'Naughtan and R. Watson, that Teacher Charles Robertson, in Perth Branch, receive the office of Priest.

Resolved, on motion of the aforesaid, that William Sprunt, in the Perth Branch, receive the office of Teacher.

Resolved, on motion of Elders M'Naughtan and Fraser, that David Butter, in Blairgowrie Branch, receive the office of Teacher.

Resolved, on motion of J. M'Naughtan and Brother M'Pherson, that the Presidents of each Branch call a Church Meeting, in order that the Book Agents may take the number of "Stars," and names of all those intending to take them for the ensuing volume, and also to instruct them the propriety of taking the same number, or more, of vol. 14.

Resolved, on motion of Elder Mather and J. Mair, that all Branches, as well as Dundee Branch, donate weekly towards support of the President's family; that they forward their donations fortnightly, or as opportunity offers.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and Brother Copley, that Elder John Mather be Conference Treasurer, for the PERPETUAL EMIGRATION FUND, and all other funds for Conference purposes.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and M'Pherson, with a view to pay balance of cost of Mission Tracts, and also in order to carry out the minute of last Conference, that a special fast day be held throughout the Conference, on Sabbath 14th Dec., and collections to be taken to defray balance of said Mission Tracts.

Resolved, on motion of Elders Beath and Greig, that collections be taken in all Branches, for the purpose of paying balance due towards furnishing the President's house, to be taken Dec. 28th.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and Mair, that each Branch in the Conference establish an extensive and active Circulating Tract Society.

The Conference Book Agent's Report, being read and found satisfactory, it was then proposed by J. McNaughtan, seconded by J. Mather, that we continue to sustain Brother Copley, as General Book Agent per Conference.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and J. Mair, that we uphold and sustain all Presidents of Branches, and those in the priesthood engaged with them, in the Conference.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and J. Copley, that we continue to sustain James Mair as Secretary of Dundee Conference.

Resolved, on motion of J. Mather and A. F. McDonald, that we continue to sustain, by our faith and prayers, Elder James McNaughtan, President of Dundee Conference. After which he rose to acknowledge the vote of confidence and said, "The best way in sustaining me as your President, is to act in accordance with these resolutions—to be prompt in obedience to the counsel given you from time to time; this would give me confidence and pleasure in the Saints; and to remember it is not sufficient that we hold up our hand and vote to do certain things, it is the PERFORMANCE of them that alone will tell. There is one thing in particular that I wish, just now, to turn your attention to. You have just voted to sustain Brother Copley, Star and Book-Agent. Now, allow me to remark, that there is not a better method of fulfilling your vote, than by regularly taking the "Stars," as they are issued. They have been gradually accumulating this last volume, and now we have on hand upwards of One Thousand Copies. This says little for the Conference,—this is anything but commendable, this ought not so to be. Do not forget the condition that all Conferences were to have them at 1d each. Those that do not take three are not entitled to have them at the reduced price, but should pay 2½d, seeing this is the condition, that the Editor is able to print them. So all those who want one "Star," and pay 2½d for it, and those who want three and pay 3d, will please give in their names to the Book-Agent, for we do not wish to be running in debt at this rate. I will now say one word concerning the PERPETUAL EMIGRATION FUND; it has not been acted upon in this Conference, in bygone time, as it ought. I will say that if you have been misinformed concerning this matter, in bygone time, that, be it known from

this time henceforth, that this measure has proceeded from head-quarters, that the Lord has undertaken your deliverance from bondage and oppression; and if you desire emancipation, if you value your own salvation, temporarily as well as spiritually, contribute to this measure, "The Lord helps the man that helps himself."

Elder McDonald was then introduced, who said, He had great pleasure in meeting with the Saints, in a Conference capacity, to transact business of such importance. To those unacquainted with the principles and manner of procedure, it might appear odious, but not so to those acquainted with them—it is entirely different. There is not anything done in this Church but is open to the investigation of all. We live under principles of freedom calculated to enable the mind, and expand the understanding. In the northern part of Scotland, where I have been labouring for the last few months, there are many wishing to learn the principles. Great good would be done if some of the Brethren would go out in the ensuing spring, to preach the Gospel,—and many other appropriate remarks.

After singing and prayer, adjourned one hour.

Fifteen minutes past 2 P.M., Meeting re-opened by singing. Prayer by Elder Waugh. Sacrament was then administered by John Mather, President of Dundee Branch. After which, a collection for the poor was taken. Then those nominated in the morning were ordained to their respective offices, under the hands of Elders McNaughtan, Brewerton, Waugh, and Mather.

Father Waugh was then introduced, who contrasted the time when the Gospel was first preached in Dundee by him, with the present—was pleased to see the onward march of truth—made many edifying remarks in his usual singular style.

Elder Brewerton, of England, was next introduced, who said, "It is with feelings of joy and gladness that I witness the spirit which has been manifested—this being my first visit—the first Conference I have had the pleasure to attend in Scotland. We are engaged in a great work. It began small, increased up to the present. The religion of Jesus Christ is not for the present life alone. We have to cultivate our minds, and to educate ourselves for eternity: to practise well in the things for the present. When God revealed the principles, he found the world in an imperfect state. He gave them a little to educate themselves, and then a little more, and if the world will not have those principles, we have to go onward and leave them behind us, though it is good policy to take as many with us as we can persuade. Carry out the minutes brought up to-day, in spirit and love; besides, it is beneath a noble mind to leave our duties unfulfilled. By our constant attendance to those things we have received, we will be enabled to receive more. If we do the things present, ours is present salvation. If this is pleasant, and the beginning of good things, let them continue with us. Submit yourselves to those who are over you in the Lord: give heed to their teachings, and greater blessings await you all. Amen."

Proposed by Elder McNaughtan, seconded by Elder Mather, that A. F. McDonald go to labour in the Highlands, Ross-shire; all hands up.

President McNaughtan said "That Elder McDonald had laboured diligently and faithfully in the north, and had succeeded in raising a Branch in Portray. The Lord has blessed his labours; but he has to go farther

north amongst his kindred, in the highlands, he has the Gaelic, and he is the man adapted for that mission, and he will accomplish it. I have, but more so of late, felt particularly interested in the introduction of the Gospel in those northern regions, and though absent from Scotland for the last few years, yet I watched with keen eye, the progress of the Gospel in my native land. May the Lord bless abundantly the labours of his servants. Amen." Meeting closed by prayer from A. F. McDonald.

At 6 o'clock evening, Elder Brewerton addressed a large and attentive audience, shewing the principles of life and salvation to all, from Habk. i. 5.—"Behold ye among the heathen, and regard, and wonder marvelously; for I will work a work in your days which ye will not believe, though it be told you."

Resolved, on motion of Elders McNaughtan and Watson, that the minutes of this Conference be printed.

Resolved, on motion of J. McNaughtan and J. Mather, that the Conference be adjourned for six months.

A Social Meeting was held in West Institution Hall, on Monday evening 7th Dec. at 8 o'clock. Many excellent Songs, Recitations, Anecdotes, and speeches were given, bearing more or less on the Great Work of the last days. The spirit, hilarity, and enjoyment of the Meeting was kept up until a late hour, when all were dismissed, being highly pleased with the enjoyment of the evening.

*Addresses of President, Secretary, Treasurer, General Book Agent of Conference, and Presidents of Branches*

James McNaughtan, Scott's Close, 4 Brown Street, Dundee.

James Muir, Lumsden's Land, West Port, Dundee.

John Mather, 10 Hunter Street, Dundee.

John Copley, Thomas's Close, 2 Murraysgate, Dundee.

Joseph Booth, 30 Guthrie Port, Arbroath.

James Ririe, 50 Canaway End, Aberdeen.

Hugh Gowans, Shore Street, Portsoy.

Angus Johnston, Davis' Square, Inverness.

Robert Watson, care of Mr Graham, Hospital Street, Perth.

Thomas Fraser, John Street, Blairgowrie.

SPEAK NO ILL.

Now, speak no ill, a kindly word  
Can never leave a sting behind;  
And ead to breath each tale we've heard,  
Is far beneath a noble mind.

Fall oft a better seed is sown,  
By checking thus the kinder plan;  
For if but little good be known,  
Still let us speak the best we can.

Give me the heart that sin would hide—  
Would fain another's faults efface;  
How can it pleasure human pride  
To prove humanity but base?

Not let us reach a higher mood—  
A nobler estimate of man;  
Be earnest in the search for good,  
And speak of all the best we can.

Then speak no ill,—but lament be  
To other's failings as your own;  
If you're the first a fault to see,  
Be not the first to make it known.

For life is but a passing day—  
No lip may tell how brief it's span;  
Then oh! the little time we stay,  
Let's speak of all the good we can.

REPRESENTATION OF THE DUNDRE CONFERENCE, FROM JUNE 8, TO NOV. 23, 1831.

Business.	Persons.	Elders.	Prison.	Teachers.	Deacons.	Members.	Total No. of Members.	Baptized.	Scattered.	On Off.	Family Fund.	Travelling expenses to J. M. Saugh- can.	Paid for Travelling expenses by J. M. N.	Perpetual Emigration Fund.	Emigration of his President before.
Aberdeen.	A. S. Adamson.	1	2	2	1	24	30	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Aberdeen.	Joseph Beatty.	4	6	3	7	63	83	21	7	3	1	0	0	0	0
Harpur.	Thos. Fraser.	1	0	2	4	16	18	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0
Dundee.	John Mather.	5	6	8	4	136	161	17	11	26	0	4	0	0	0
Forrester.	J. Shepherd.	1	1	1	0	4	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perth.	Robert Watson.	1	1	1	2	28	33	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Perth.	High Gosman.	4	1	1	1	10	16	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scattered, including Tames.		1	0	0	0	18	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		14	17	18	10	320	381	30	22	26	5	2	7	3	7

Agent's Account with Officers.

From Dec. 8, 1830, to Nov. 26, 1831.

Agent due to New Office. - - - - - £. 64 13 4½

Disbursed to Nov. 26, 1831. - - - - - £. 20 2 6

Books in agent's hands. - - - - - 12 11 6½

Books in branch agent's hands. - - - - - 29 19 10½

Money in agent's hands. - - - - - 11 19 0½

£. 64 13 4½